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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Highlander

Thursday 13 December 2012 | Issue 62



Photo by Walt Griffin

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students walked out of class on Dec. 11 in support of their teachers' fight against Bill 115.

Moffatt named county warden

By Matthew Desrosiers

There's a new warden in town.

Carol Moffatt, reeve of Algonquin Highlands, was named the next Warden of Haliburton County at a special inaugural meeting of county council held Dec. 11.

Moffatt was the sole nominee for the position.

Algonquin Highland deputy-reeve Liz Danielsen said she was proud to put Moffatt's name forward.

"Carol has as much knowledge of the history of Haliburton County as anyone I know," she said. "She is hardworking, loyal and extremely well-spoken."

"She doesn't shy from taking on paths that might look

overwhelming to others and is dogged in her determination to offer up an end product that is geared towards excellence and the benefit of all her constituents."

As Moffatt put on the robe and chain of office, she said she felt the weight of responsibility on her shoulders.

"You go in there and you put your hand in the air and start swearing that oath, and that's the moment you say 'I'm making a pretty big commitment here'," she said. "To go in there [county council] and chair the meeting, it is a big responsibility."

Moffatt said she is not taking the new position lightly.

"It's exciting and I think it's an honour," she said. "I don't believe the wardenship gives one absolute power by any

stretch. It's a leadership position and a consensus building position."

Haliburton County faces a number of challenges, including financial challenges that will take some hard decisions to overcome.

"There have always been challenges here and I don't think they're going to change," she said. "As these challenges face us, we need to rely on each other to collaborate as much as we can."

One of her priorities as warden is to tackle Haliburton County's tourism opportunities. She said tourism isn't something that "just happens for us" in the Highlands.

See "Tourism" on page 2

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Highlander news



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Reeve Murray Fearrey passes the torch to the new county warden, Carol Moffatt.

Tourism top priority

continued from page 1

"My personal top priority is for us to make some sound decisions and some lasting decisions about [our] focus for tourism in the county," she said. "It's our biggest industry. It's the industry that branches out the most to our entire economy, and I think we need to make sure we put the right resources in the right places for it."

Moffatt replaces Dysart et al reeve Murray Fearrey, who ended his 12th term as warden.

"I would say you've been a patient teacher for me, and I appreciate all the time you've spent with me," she said during her speech. "On behalf of everyone in the room and county council, I would like to thank you for all your years as warden, and as a leader in the community and for council."

Warden Moffatt chaired her first meeting on Dec. 12.



Photo by Walt Griffin

Pharmacy raises money for Minden Food Bank

Raffle winner Ruth Perkins stands with Minden Pharmasave owner and pharmacist Richard Smith (left) and Dana Mann (right). Perkins won two tickets to the Skins Curling Game at Casino Rama as part of a raffle to raise money for the Minden Food Bank. The raffle raised \$250.

Susan Lee, CFP

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Highlander news



Photo by Ashley Campbell

Back row from left: Carole Craigmyle, Gillian Stephen, Tracey Lear. Front row from left: Doris Laine, and Julie Goodwin.

Paying the way at Highland Wood

By Ashley Campbell

The residents at Highland Wood Long-Term Care Facility have a new walkway available for their use.

The walkway was completed in July, however fundraising was done after the fact to help pay for the cost, with the Ladies Hospital Auxiliary covering the \$1,900 difference.

Gillian Stephen, daughter of resident Joan

Medland, had the idea for the walkway.

"There are all of these flowers out here," Stephen said. "It was just impossible to come out here and drag a wheelchair around."

The walkway is made of recycled rubber, and two benches were donated to complete the new area.

"My thanks go out to the Auxiliary and anyone in the community who gave a donation to the [walkway]," said Stephen. "People were very generous."

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Editorial opinion

Pumped up

Most people don't like the idea of being stuck in a strange place, unable to leave.

Snowmobilers and tourists are no exception, so it's no surprise to find out they tend to stay where the gas is. Without fuel, they're stuck. And that's been a problem for Wilberforce.

When the tank is running low, fears of being trapped in a small town keep the tourists away.

That's not good for business.

Highlands East's economy, as with the rest of the county, depends on tourism.

Wilberforce, as one of, if not the largest population centre in the municipality, has a lot to offer. From eco-tours to fishing and farms, there's a lot to see and do. But none of that matters if people don't bother to stop.

Either people will stop in Cardiff, or they'll keep trucking to Haliburton. There's no incentive to stop in between.

In the winter, all trails lead away from town. That is to say snowmobilers, who are a huge boost to local economies, will purposefully avoid Wilberforce and travel on to a more secure village where they can restock, refuel, and get back on the trails.

All that could change with the opening of a new gas station last week. Two businessmen saw a need in the community and decided to put down some cash and build a new and improved gas station and service centre. But just because there's a demand doesn't mean these guys have hit the jackpot.

They've visited other Wilberforce businesses and told them if they want to keep the gas station, the community will have to support it. That means although

the gas may be a bit more expensive than in Haliburton, the locals need to refuel in Wilberforce.

Without that support, the station, like many before, will flounder and, eventually, founder. But loyalty's not the only requirement for this venture to be a success.

For a while now, it's been known that Wilberforce doesn't have gas. Tourists and cottagers refuel before they get into town. Most travellers don't even know what Wilberforce is, and so they keep on to Haliburton.

There are stories of signs being posted on winter snowmobile trails saying "No gas in Wilberforce," a warning to stay away.

These are barriers the leaders in Highlands East are going to have to overcome. If they want people to come to Wilberforce and use the new gas station, perhaps visiting other businesses while they're there, they're going to have to get on a mountain and shout it to the world.

It's like the gas station in Camarvon. Word gets around that there's never gas, and people stop relying on it. For Wilberforce, the word is out that the pumps are dry, so drivers won't bother stopping to check for themselves.

If Highlands East and the businesses of Wilberforce want to cash in, they need to put up signs and let everyone know the town is open, the gas is flowing, and that no matter how nice your stay, you'll always be able to go home.



By Matthew Desrosiers

Photo of the week



Ice overtakes Head Lake.

Photo by Walt Griffin

Blowing in the wind

To see our high school students standing up for something should warm many a Highlander's heart. Civic engagement is sorely lacking in our society, and so for young people to take notice of injustice and act on it is an encouraging sign, for them and for our community. Both could benefit from some vociferous advocacy once in a while.

They took to the streets, or County Road 21 if you will, in support of their teachers. The current labour strife offers what those in the education profession might call a learning opportunity. Primarily, the students are learning that when you disagree strongly with something, you can and should speak up. As the oft-quoted line attributed to 18th century philosopher Edmund Burke goes, all that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. People don't do that much any more — speak up, that is.

But speaking up is just about the only way to get those in power to listen. It was the labour movement in the 1920s and 1930s that led to the secure jobs and wide prosperity of the post-war period. It was those jobs and that prosperity that provided the baby boom generation with universal health care and subsidized education, and that generation's protests that led the way for societal advances including women's equality and reductions in racial discrimination.

Who knew the boomers would give up so quickly? Those who witnessed the 1960s and 1970s can be forgiven for thinking the world was really going to change. Some things did, but most things did not. Power in any realm — corporate, labour, government, media — will always lie, cheat, oppress and yes, steal, unless it is held to account by large numbers of people.

That happened for a brief period, and then the boomers got their education, their good jobs and pensions, their Blue Jays and skyscrapers, and promptly pulled up the ladder behind them. The largest generation in human history has been largely silent as the last 30 years has seen wages stagnate, communities atrophy, corruption run rampant. Seems all that protest was just an excuse to party; granite countertops are the new Bob Dylan album.

So the HHSS students offer hope that today's youth isn't rendered completely comatose by television and junk food. But the lesson plan they're following may have a few gaps.

First, it's important to choose your timing. As I wrote recently, protest now, while the legislature is prorogued, is an exercise in futility. A mature and savvy union would take its case to the courts and carefully plan action for next September, when there will be a government to argue with. Instead, they are arguing with themselves, shouting to a legislature that isn't there.

Second, it's important to think for yourself. The teachers seem to be following their union's ill-considered instructions without question, against their own interests. What they gain in pointless solidarity they will lose in goodwill, particularly in a small community like ours. The union may have told them Bill 115 can be repealed now, but it can't. Perhaps that's why the union's calls for action are half-hearted and relatively inconsequential, avoiding a full-on strike, because they know it's a waste of time. Still, better to look busy and remind everyone of how powerful they are, they must be thinking, than to quietly work out a strategy and plan what comes next. Is that lilly-dipping or bullying? I'm not sure.

Whichever it is, let's hope the students are watching closely, because there's a lot to learn. From the government, how to obscure your purpose with Orwellian language and break contracts with impunity by demonizing working conditions and benefits a wealthy society should be able to provide to everyone. And, from the union, how to lose public support and ensure the election of a government that will surely destroy everything you believe in, by spreading ignorance, treating your members like props and showboating just because you can.

Ironically, of all the players in this fiasco, it's the students who seem to have the most sense and maturity: after making their point, they went back inside and got on with it.



By Bram Lebo

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TheHighlander

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Letters to the editor

RE: "Mysteries Abound," The Highlander, issue 59

Dear editor,

In reference to "Mysteries Abound" in the Nov. 22 edition of *The Highlander*, it is fantastic to read that customer service is a hot topic in the Haliburton Highlands, particularly as the holiday season approaches and the importance of providing friendly, warm service to both visitors to the region and loyal, local customers should be on the minds of all businesses.

Undoubtedly, poor service can have costly outcomes for a business. In today's competitive tourism marketplace, visitors are met with an endless list of destinations offering quality service, and negative guest experiences spread more quickly than ever through popular social media channels and trip review sites. Meeting and exceeding customers' expectations must be at the centre of every guest interaction if businesses are to remain relevant and viable.

Customer service success is something that requires a continued investment of time and resources. It requires a service vision from upper management, for example, that includes fostering staff engagement so employees feel connected to their jobs and motivated to make on-the-job decisions that lead to customer satisfaction and positive guest experiences. This is not something that can be done with a flash customer service training or one mystery shop evaluation, of course.

The very fact that service excellence requires hard work and dedication is exactly why the Ontario Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO) recognizes the importance

of acknowledging businesses that demonstrate commitment to customer service and why businesses designated through the OHvation Customer Service Program are rewarded with additional marketing exposure as customer service leaders. Validation as customer service champions also instills a sense of pride in both business and community, important factors of tourism and economic development that should not be overlooked.

The reality is, there is still much to be accomplished in order to elevate the level of customer service across Ontario's Highlands. The OHTO is striving to also engage the businesses most in need of customer service improvements with the OHvation program, however, we cannot do this alone. We rely on the community, industry partners and customers to be proactive in sharing their guest experiences with us so that action can be taken towards encouraging these businesses to participate in the program.

The two programs available in the Haliburton Highlands, which provide direct support to the industry's customer service skill development, are steps in the right direction and worthy of participation. All businesses stand to learn and gain something through the process, no matter what level of customer service is currently delivered. Interested businesses are encouraged to contact the OHTO for more information.

Stephanie Hessel
Tourism Development & Industry
Relations Coordinator, OHTO

Harvesting game more humane than slaughterhouse

Dear editor,

In response to the outrageous letter in last week's paper about hunting and the Trophy Wall by A.M., I think I'm speaking for thousands of hunters out there, wake up and get a grip on reality.

Hunting is a way of life for a lot of people and it is not wrong, it is just a different and very humane way of harvesting our own food. Maybe some people need to go to a slaughter house and see how beef and other food we eat every day is processed. It doesn't bother me at all because that is how the process goes.

What does bother me is people saying that hunters are killing animals just for fun. That is a big load of crap. Some and many hunters are proud of the animal that they have

harvested and provided food for their family, so they show pictures to the community. This in no way makes them barbaric. Every person has an opinion but that is just your opinion, in no way does it mean we have to see and do things your way.

Hunters are entitled to harvest any animal that they are licensed to harvest inside the set season for such animal. If you choose not to eat meat that is just your choice. It does not mean all hunters should stop as well. If you are ashamed to be part of a community that is proud of hunting and harvesting our meat for our own food, then please feel free to not be a part of this community.

Dave Nuttall
Tory Hill

The Outsider — Drunks, geeks, government and grandma

This column so often documents the differences between my past life in England and this rural idyll in which I now find myself. As long as I live here I'm sure I'll continue to be amazed and delighted by the irks and quirks that make my Haliburton home what it is.

However, there are some things that will always be the same, no matter on which side of the Atlantic, whether they be rural or urban, English, Canadian, or for that matter, Bangladeshi, Egyptian or Tasmanian.

I'm talking about the delightful but ultimately debilitating effects of alcohol on a party-goer. Or the number of your friends who first sneer at all-singing-all-dancing cell phones only to turn into the 'look, look I can take pictures, while texting underwater, downloading a movie and calling my mom' geek. Then, there's the way in which politicians always manage to turn from champions of the people into evil power grabbers no matter what party, persuasion or part of the world they're from. And finally, there are grandmas, or grammas, as you folks like to call them.

Yes, grandmas (sorry but I'm going with my all too proper English pronunciation) are a parent's best friend and worst nightmare no matter where you are from. They are a fount of child rearing knowledge and often the first port of call when a babysitter is required. They provide unconditional love to you and your kids and can be relied upon for a tasty treat at the drop of a hat.

And that's where the trouble starts: treats.

After spending years admonishing their kids for eating too

many sweets (candies, in Canadian parlance) lecturing us on how bad they are for our teeth, grandma seems to have an unlimited supply for young Jimmy, Shelley or, in this instance Little Z.

Currently, every time I look around my little chap is furtively filling his face with some form of candy coloured contraband. His supplier: grandma. Over from England on vacation, my mother-in-law makes it her mission to spoil her grandson at every opportunity and other times besides.

Now, I shouldn't begrudge this — please reread the 'unconditional love' bit above — but it's playing havoc with the house rules in the Jones Homestead, believe me. Little Z seems to understand that when grandma's around he can get away with almost anything because if we go to rebuke him she'll stick up for him.

"Oh, don't tell him off, he didn't mean it," says grandma, after Z has switched on the DVD player, opened the disc drawer, deftly inserted a whole grain cracker and then closed it with a forceful and resounding crunch.

"Didn't bloody mean it!" I yell, inside my head.

"OK, now please don't do it again, little chap," I say out loud, while smiling through gritted teeth at grandma.

He refuses to eat foods that previously he liked. He does this, I believe, to mess with my head and because grandma will come to his rescue as I try to shovel boiled cabbage down his gullet just as my mum did when I was a kid. I've even had reports from my sister of grandma (my own mother) surreptitiously removing food from her children's plates to

Hunting keeps the balance

Dear editor,

To A. M., I can't believe how uninformed you are about wildlife management.

You obviously have never seen wild animals that are slowly starving to death because there are too many of them for the available habitat (I have and it's heartbreaking). Animals need a certain amount of area per animal in order to stay healthy and live. People keep taking habitat away from animals for their own use. I love all animals and enjoy seeing them and helping them.

I manage 1,300 acres. I clear areas of forest to keep the forest healthy and to make available the types of food that grow in cleared areas so the wildlife can forage, have their young and feel secure. I hunt and I won't apologize for it. I also would crawl out on thin ice to save any wild animal and have done so.

I respect animals and thank the animal after I harvest it. I use every scrap of that animal. The hide goes to charity, meat is shared by all six of my boys and my wife, the fat is kept for the bird feeder, the waste (eviscerate) is shared by a vast array of wildlife.

Hunting them helps to keep a balanced and healthy population. Hunting keeps us in touch with our heritage. It also keeps animal/vehicle collisions down. Ever seen a young animal crying out for its dead mom at the side of the road? I have, and again, it's heartbreaking.

Hunting also contributes billions to the world's economy.

One more thing is that all female deer abandon their young in the fall, even going so far as to chase them away, so they can breed and have new fawns/calves in the spring. Deer are not orphaned by hunting.

Thomas Knapp
Haliburton County

Tell us your opinion, send your letters to the editor
matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca



By Will Jones

make mum think they've eaten their dreaded 'greens'. She's going against all the rules of her own household and the raising of both my sister and me.

Her defence: "I'm allowed to now, 'cause I'm grandma."

But how do I know this is universal? Because I've come to know quite a few parents and grammas here in Canada. I also have friends who live as far-a-field as the aforementioned Egypt and Tasmania, and, on visiting Toronto for a business meeting the other day I spoke with an intellectual urbanite who is having terrible trouble stopping grandma from giving her daughter Christmas presents before Christmas.

"She's more excited than my kid," this fellow parent exclaimed. "There was a Barbie doll, meant for Christmas, sitting next to her bowl of treats when we visited grandma the other day!"

Early Christmas presents and bowls, yes bowls, of treats! How can we hope to bring up our children properly in this world of binge drinking, cell phone addiction and political shenanigans when the grandmas, grammas, nonnas and nanas are against us, too?

The thing is, these trouble causers are our mums or spouse's mums and as long as they are you've just got to love 'em, ain't ya!

Highlander opinions

Eye on the street: Does your family have a unique Christmas tradition?



Brent Devolin

Minden

On Boxing Day we go to our hunting camp and we have peameal bacon, eggs, cheese and beverages for brunch. We go in as a family by quad or snowmobile. We always have three or four generations together for this wonderful Christmas season.

Karen Rivard

Gelert

We all go to the Haliburton United Church for the Christmas Eve service and celebrate with friends and family, and then on Christmas Day we always watch the Disney Parade as a family.



Ray Cameron

Janetville

We try to go for a sleigh ride if there is any snow. My son has a team of Belgian horses and Christmas Eve is a really big deal as we all try to get together to celebrate as a family.

Virginia Vollick

Norland

We visit with family and we have a great-grandson this year so it is an extremely special Christmas for us. My family will all be back together to celebrate Christmas this year so this is very special.



Jocelyn Moyne

Minden

My grandmother has been making spiced beef every year on Christmas Eve and we all get together to enjoy it and celebrate. This is something that her mother did with the same recipe and we have done it as a family for over 100 years.

THE PHONEBOOK PROJECT: HART

By Mark Arke

Over one billion people on this planet don't have access to clean water.

Each day 30,000 people die from illness caused by waterborne diseases. Six thousand of those deaths are children.

When Haliburton resident Barry Hart discovered these alarming facts and others 10 years ago, he knew he couldn't stand by and watch from the sidelines.

"It just went from my head to my heart," said Hart, as he recalled a speech him and his wife heard delivered from a Texas man at a conference.

The man encouraged those in attendance to go on a well drilling trip if they wanted to make a difference. The following year, Hart attended two more conferences.

"I got kind of restless with just talking about it... let's do something," he said.

He then went on a "fact-finding" trip to Ethiopia that opened his "Ontario-tourist eyes" to some of the most desperate places in the world.

The analogy Hart gave is "you're not aware of the blessing of breathing until you have emphysema." As someone who has been to some of the most water-deprived areas of the world, he has seen people drinking water out of puddles that most of us would avoid walking through.

"Little kids and women walk miles to get it. So that's a huge amount of time. It's tough on a little kid's back to put a 40-pound bucket of water on their head."

In the fall of 2003, Hart and his wife went on a well drilling trip to Guatemala. After that experience they founded a faith-based organization known as Water Ambassadors Canada.

"The first major push came from the folks in Haliburton," he said. "It's a Haliburton-founded charity."

Time and money are what's needed

to take on water projects in developing countries. The local community has given both to his charity, said Hart.

"It takes people's time to go... For people to go, they've got to raise their own funds."

All volunteers must raise approximately \$3,000 to cover expenses such as transportation, food and lodging, training, plus a shared cost of the project. The full cost of all training is receipted for charitable purposes.

"We've had families go, we've had couples go, we've had all sorts of combinations. Haliburton is where it all started."

To date, hundreds of Canadians have participated in mission trips to Central America and the Caribbean to undertake water projects. These projects have included well repair, well drilling, water purification systems, water filters and training in proper health and hygiene habits.

Over the years, Hart has been on many of these trips. He and his wife just recently returned from a mission trip to Nicaragua. Right there with them was the Reay family of Minden and four other people.

"In one week we repaired three wells and installed three chlorination systems. We did six projects in a week and each project serves between 500 and 700 people. That's 3-4,000 people who now have access to clean water and didn't before."

He said one of the wells had been broken for nine years. Once repaired, the people in the community were overcome with joy.

"People just cheered when the water came back, because their only options were to buy it or go miles to get it."

For the upcoming year, Hart has 20 teams (eight people per team) on the roster. Trips are planned for Haiti, India and other locations.



Photo by Mark Arke

Barry Hart shows pictures from various trips to improve water access and quality.

For each project there is an in-country partner who ensures that everything goes smoothly.

According to Hart, those who haven't gone on a trip before tend to be apprehensive about the whole idea.

"Most of the reaction is, 'Wow, but I don't want to do that.' There is reservation because of the unknown."

But once you arrive in one of the communities and greet the people there, everything quickly changes, said Hart.

"They're all teeth and smiles. When you leave four days later you know their names... we learned a bit of Spanish to communicate better."

One trip for a young person can be a game changer, he added.

"Sometimes a young kid will go on one of these trips and it will cause them to change their career."

What's the most important requirement in order to go on a mission trip?

"They've just got to have a willing heart," he said.

But for those who would rather support a project from afar, sponsorships are available.

"If someone would like to sponsor a project, we buy the equipment on their behalf and the teams go down and install that project."

To learn more about Water Ambassadors Canada visit www.waterambassadorscanada.org or call 1-877-988-4688.

Every two weeks, for a year, we're interviewing a Highlander at random from the phonebook, starting with A.



Because everyone has a story.

Highlander arts



Photos by Matthew Desrosiers

Left: Sharon Lawrence reads to children after art lessons by David Alexander Risk. Right: Risk shares his work with Georgia Strain Niziolek at his exhibit's opening on Dec. 7.

New David Risk exhibit draws hundreds

By Matthew Desrosiers

For those familiar with his work, you might not recognize David Alexander Risk's art currently on exhibit at Trophy Property Corp's office in Haliburton.

The bold, bright colours and unique interpretation of nature, described as a mix between Dr. Seuss and Picasso, are a far cry from the hyper-realistic art Risk is best known for.

Members of the community got their first look at Risk's new direction at the exhibit's opening on Dec. 7.

"David Alexander Risk is no stranger to the wilds of this county," said Jack Brezina, who emceed the event. "He often disappears for days in the wilderness, capturing the wonders of nature in sketches, painting and photos."

"He has an unquenchable love of the wilderness."

Risk has been away from the art world for a number of years, following an illness that Brezina said had sapped his energy and creative drive.

"At one point he thought he would never paint again," he said. "His return was inspired by his grandchildren who crawled into bed with him and asked him to draw something."

Risk said his grandchildren would describe a story as he drew. Each one of his new paintings has a story that coincides with it. One in particular tells the tale of a water taxi service, he said.

"The work he created reflects the freshness of a child's imagination and the whimsy of Dr. Seuss," said Brezina.

But the evening wasn't only to celebrate Risk's return to art. In fact, it also marked the launch of *The Living Forest 2*, a book about the Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve.

Written by Peter Schleifenbaum, owner of the Forest, and with artwork by Risk, the book builds on *The Living Forest*, which was completed in 1999. Its pages provide insight into the Forest and the various things that are happening there today.

"Nobody realizes how many, not just hours, but days and years go into a project like that," Schleifenbaum said.

He approached Risk to work on the book and helped him overcome his hesitations about drawing again after his illness.

Although his art is on display in the book, Risk credits Schleifenbaum for creating what he calls a masterpiece.

"Peter is a great writer," he said. "They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but Peter's work really stands on its own. I was thrilled to be a part of it."

The *Living Forest 2* was launched in conjunction with the Forest's 50th anniversary.

On Dec. 8, Risk hosted an art class for children at his exhibit.

"We always do free art in nature classes," he said. "We've been doing that for 30 years."

Risk said the basic teaching of the class is that learning to draw begins with learning to see.

To teach the kids to see and take a visual picture with their minds, he brought along a big bag full of unusual items. They

include random combinations of items that each child could interpret in their own way.

"They're having a lot of fun with imagination," Risk said. "The kids have so much fun because they come up with all the names for these creatures."

Following the lesson, Sharon Lawrence, wife of the late R.D. Lawrence, sat with the children and read them stories until the man of the hour, Santa Claus himself, paid them a visit and handed out drawings for each child to take home.

CALL FOR ENTRY

Rails End Salon Exhibition 2013
This year's theme is "Celebration"!

Don't miss this opportunity to stretch your imagination, be inspired and create a work of art (or two!) to show the world!

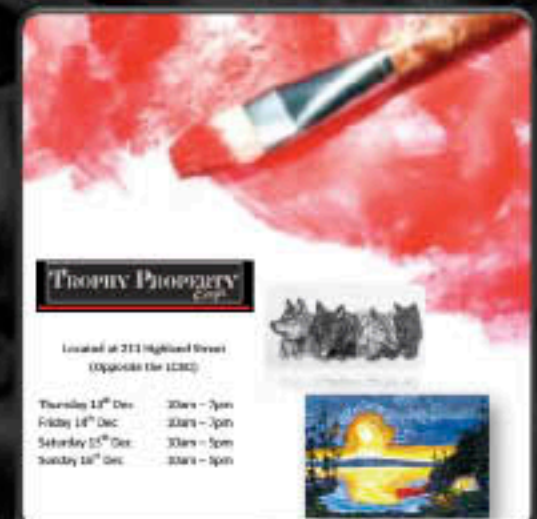
DEADLINE FOR ENTRY
Saturday January 12 at 4 pm

Open to all members of Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre, NEW members always welcome!
All works must be for sale; 70% commission to artist, 30% to Rails End fundraising. Work may be dropped off during Gallery hours (Wed-Sat 11-5, closed Dec 23 - Jan 2)
Entry Form: www.railsendgallery.com
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Rails End Gallery 23 York Street, Haliburton Village



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Thursday 13th Dec 10am - 5pm
Friday 14th Dec 10am - 5pm
Saturday 15th Dec 10am - 5pm
Sunday 16th Dec 10am - 5pm

Highlander arts



Photos by Mark Arike

Above: The candy canes, Rebecca Kidd and Brooke Stevenson. Above middle: Unicorns Rebecca Hamilton and Claire Karaguesian. Above right: The chicken Abigail Kauffeldt rolls over chefs Mackenzie Tidey and Emma Brohm. Right: Sophie Longo and Amy Black in Chinese Tea.

Audiences flock to The Nutcracker

By Mark Arike

For the first time in its nine-year history, both showings of Heritage Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* were sold-out. Held on Dec. 8 and 9 at the Northern Lights Performing Pavilion, the production included performances from 66 children and 10 adults.

"That's the most I've ever had," said Julie Barban, director and owner of Heritage Ballet.

Barban called the volunteers "amazing" and said that next year's performance will be "extra special" for its 10th anniversary.

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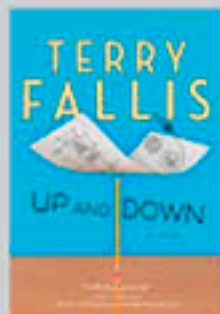
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Highlander arts

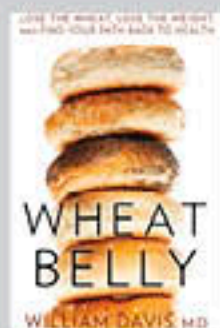
Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are the top five fiction and non-fiction titles as requested this week at the Haliburton County Public Library.



HCPL's TOP FIVE FICTION

1. *Up and Down* by Terry Fallis 🇨🇦
2. *Trust Your Eyes* by Linwood Barclay 🇨🇦
3. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce
4. *Winter of the World* by Ken Follett
5. *The Beautiful Mystery* by Louise Penny 🇨🇦



HCPL's TOP FIVE NON-FICTION

1. *Wheat Belly: Lose the Wheat, Lose the Weight, and Find Your Path Back to Health* by William Davis
2. *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed
3. *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Won't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain
4. *Total Recall: My Unbelievably True Life Story* by Arnold Schwarzenegger
5. *The Wealthy Barber Returns* by David Chilton 🇨🇦

For many families, reading *'Twas The Night Before Christmas*' is as much a holiday tradition as watching *It's a Wonderful Life* or *Christmas Vacation*. If you are looking for a picture book to supplement (or replace) this classic for Christmas Eve, then there are several fun new choices for you to consider.

Pete the Cat Saves Christmas provides a silly take on the original, beginning with lines: "Twas the day before Christmas and Santa was ill. In the cold winter wind he had caught a bad chill."

Pete the cat, of course, must step in to save the day.

Scaredy Squirrel Prepares For Christmas is sure to be an instant favourite for fans of Scaredy's other adventures in overcoming his neurotic tendencies.

Likewise, for Robert Munsch enthusiasts, his latest book titled *Finding Christmas* should be a hit this time of year.

Start some new reading traditions by checking out these or many other brand new Christmas picture books at your branch of the Haliburton County Public Library.

Library News

Free holiday children's programming is set for the Minden Hills, Dysart and Wilberforce branches of the Library. Stop by Minden Dec. 27, Jan. 2 (10-11 a.m.); Dysart, Dec. 29, Jan. 4 (10-11 a.m.); or Wilberforce, Dec. 28, Jan. 3 (12:30-1:30 p.m.) for stories, games and crafts.



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Holiday Ad Deadlines

Christmas Issue (December 20)
Ad Deadline - December 19

Boxing Day / New Years Issue (December 27)
Ad Deadline - December 20

Please note our office will be closed from December 22, reopening on January 3.
Our first issue of 2013 will be January 10.
To report news or for urgent inquiries,
please email bram@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

TheHighlander

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with coupon, from December 17 to December 31.

Highlander business

Gas station opens for eager community

By Matthew Desrosiers

Wilberforce is fuelled up and ready to receive visitors now that the gas station and service centre is up and running.

On Dec. 7, the Wilberforce Service Centre officially turned on its pumps amid a crowd of dignitaries and community members who gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the station.

Laurie Scott, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP, said it was nice to see a gas station opening up in Wilberforce after watching so many close throughout her riding.

"It's a great day for Wilberforce," she said. "I'm thrilled to see a gas station in a community that wants one and needs one."

"I can't be happier for all of you."

Steven Kauffeldt, Highlands East Ward 1 councillor, said the opening is a great thing for the community.

"This grand opening marks the reopening of not only the gas station but the reopening of Wilberforce and Highlands East to tourism," he said. "In today's world, gas is a necessity for all of us and without it the town will slowly die. This reopening will help ensure Wilberforce's future and in turn the future of Highlands East."

The Wilberforce Service Centre is the result of the efforts of owners Don Bamford and Randy Robski.

"We wanted to totally rebuild the service station and tried to set a new standard of how it can be done," Bamford said. "I was told that a lot of people have been looking at this station with great interest and anticipation of its opening."

The station fills a need in the community, he said.

"The community needed a gas station and there were many people that were not stopping in Wilberforce because gas was not available," said Bamford. "Our station has two service bays for car repairs, two types of gas, regular and premium, including regular diesel and coloured diesel for tractors and backhoes. Plus, tire sales and tire change equipment is coming



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

The Wilberforce Service Centre officially opened on Dec. 7. From left, Peter Fredricks, Lynn Waugh of Bluewave Energy, Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, Carson Bamford, Steve Kauffeldt, Highlands East Ward 1 councillor, Don Bamford, Randy Robski, Rosemarie Jung, Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce manager, and Andy Campbell, general manager of the Haliburton County Development Corporation.

soon."

Robski said the response to the new station has been great.

"This gas station has cost a great deal of money and we are pleased with the response from the local businesses in the area, including the new pharmacy that opened last year,"

he said. "I feel that we now have almost everything to make Wilberforce a great place to live and visit."

The service centre is located on Loop Rd., across from the Lloyd Watson Centre in the heart of Wilberforce.



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Shoplocal

For our ShopLocal special this year, The Highlander puts the spotlight on stores and products unique to the Highlands. Shopping for your Christmas gifts in the county supports local jobs and businesses, keeping our economy growing.

Please note, all of the businesses profiled were selected by The Highlander without their input. Our editorial policy is to never accept payment or any form of compensation in exchange for editorial coverage, so you can be sure every story was written independently by one of our writers.



Photo by Mark Arike

Erin Lynch, co-director of The Art Hive, puts up Christmas ornaments in the studio and gallery. See story on page 20.

Merry Christmas & Many Thanks!

*Sleigh bells are ringing,
And we're filled with good cheer,
When we think of the new friends
That we've made this year —
And we'd like to extend, to each one of you...
Our very best wishes, and our gratitude, too!*



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Shoplocal



Photo submitted by Chris Bishop

Skiers and snowboarders tackled the hills at Sir Sam's on opening weekend.

Carving snow at Sir Sam's

By Mark Arke

The powder is on the hills so that means it's time to hit them.

Bundle up this winter and head to Sir Sam's Ski & Bike for a full day of skiing or snowboarding with friends and family.

"A lot of people buy a cottage here because they can ski in the wintertime and have their boating in the summertime," said manager Chris Bishop. "It's a draw to help people make a decision to want to stay here."

RJ (Bob) Bishop Jr. started the family-run business in 1965. He inspired all five of his children to become involved with the operation, which today is one of the last two remaining, original family-owned ski resorts in Ontario.

Sir Sam's provides boarders and skiers 14 groomed runs for every level of ability, seven lifts, a rental shop, terrain park, dining facilities and more. In 2000, Sir Sam's got its own 1,100-foot-long, enclosed surface lift to transport snowboarders, skiers and mountain bikers to the top of the hill.

"It's the first covered surface lift in Canada," said Bishop. "It really looks after the beginning and entry level markets by giving them easy access up the hill."

Those new to skiing and snowboarding should check out the Snow School, which is led by expert skier Dave Webb.

Sir Sam's is host to many annual events, including races, live entertainment and other gatherings.

"We do après ski parties and a ton of events all ski-related," said Bishop.

In the summer visitors can bring their bicycles and ride the well-maintained runs or the BMX pump track. You can ride the XC trails after hours and on days when the hill is not open by signing a waiver and depositing \$10 in the honour box.

From now until Dec. 24, everything at the hill is half price, including lift tickets.

To discover what else Sir Sam's has to offer and to enter a contest for 10 years of free family skiing or snowboarding, visit www.sirsams.com.

Fun and useful ways to recycle the Highlander

By Heather Kennedy

You've finished reading the Highlander, but you don't want to put it down just yet. Well, here are some fun, practical and very helpful ways to use the Highlander when you are done reading it.

Pinatas

First figure out what shape you would like for your pinata. Make your paste in a pot by mixing 1/3 flour with 2/3 water. The paste should just begin to thicken. Boil the mixture (keep stirring so it does not stick to the pot) then add a pinch of salt. Once it gets to a putty form it's done. Tear some newspaper into strips, 1 inch or 1 1/2 inch wide. Smear these strips with the flour glue to make papier-mache.

Once the papier-mache is ready, it's up to you to figure out how you want to shape it, and crazy pinata you want to make.

Christmas wrapping

Running low on wrapping paper? Want to save some money on wrapping? Why not

use the newspaper? I think adding a big red ribbon with a bow gives the present a special something. This adds a great look and feel to the newspaper-covered gift.

Winter-boot helper

Do you get wet winter boots? If so, crumple up your paper and stuff it into your boots to dry and deodorize your boots. Also holds shape for winter storage.

Package padding

This one probably everyone knows. When Christmas is over and it's time to take the decorations down, wrap those precious and family keepsake ornaments with newspaper. This also helps when you are moving.

Clothing Patterns

For sewing patterns for clothing you can use a piece of newspaper. This is a simple yet very effective way to make different patterns for your new shorts, shirts, dresses and much more.

Those are just a few fun ways to use your Highlander newspaper after you are done reading it. Start saving your papers now.



Photo by Heather Kennedy

The Highlander makes great wrapping paper this time of year.

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Shoplocal



Photos by Mark Arike

The Highlands Summer Festival presented *Colours in the Storm* this year as part of their annual offering of shows.

Summer Festival announces lineup for 2013

By Mark Arike

Some gifts you can take home while others – like tickets to a live show – are meant to get you out to the theatre for an unforgettable experience.

Each summer, The Highlands Summer Festival has been delivering quality entertainment to audiences on the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion Stage. As the Festival prepares to enter its 13th season in 2013, Highlanders and visitors can expect to see productions that will live up to the hype.

"I'd like to think that the quality has gone up a notch or two every season," said Jack Brezina, president of the Festival. "I think that's in all aspects of what we do."

Brezina was one of 18 people who got together to launch the non-profit organization back in 2000.

"It was the creation of the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion that prompted us to think that something should be done," he said. "It was a bunch of theatre enthusiasts and supporters who gathered."

Since there are many costs associated with putting on the annual shows, the organization heavily relies on corporate sponsors and individual donors.

"We've evolved over the years and we now hire professional directors to manage each of the productions."

Many members of the local community also get involved with the shows as performers and volunteers, said Brezina.

"We include a lot of individuals from the community in all aspects of the theatre."

Those interested in landing a role can sign up for an audition in January.

"We've had people just walk in the door and suddenly they find themselves on stage and it was wonderful."

This year's Festival line-up includes the following productions: *Nunsense*, *Our Town*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *Bohemians in Brooklyn* and *Wingfield's Inferno*.

Many shows sell out, so get your tickets early. Tickets can be purchased individually or see each show with a season pass. To get yours visit www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca or call the box office at 705-457-9933.

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Shoplocal



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Tom Dawson shows his new BBQ sauce available for sale at Wintergreen.

More than maple syrup

By Matthew Desrosiers

Is there a place in the Highlands for specialty or novelty foods?

Tom Dawson would say yes.

Dawson is the owner and operator of Wintergreen Maple Products in Gelert. If you've spent any time in Haliburton, you likely have heard about Wintergreen, or been told to go there and have breakfast sometime.

But what started off as a maple products business has evolved into something much more.

Dawson said he designed the business to be able to switch directions quickly. He is always looking for something new and exciting to bring to his establishment.

What's hot at Wintergreen right now are scotch bonnet peppers and their various uses as preserves and in sauces.

With 15 different barbecue sauces available for sale, four different pepper jellies and marmalades, visitors have been pleasantly surprised by this change of direction, he said.

Wintergreen's new line of barbecue sauces are branded after a fire station, with the various types given fire-related names.

According to Dawson, the pepper doesn't really exist in this county. People don't know about them or how to use them properly, so he's made it his mission to introduce the pepper in interesting and different recipes for people to try.

Pepper jellies and marmalades, while not on the top of most Christmas wishlists, could go a long way for someone who enjoys toast in the mornings and would like something different, he said.

For that reason, Wintergreen has created several gift baskets for sale this season that include not just the usual maple syrup, but some of his more interesting and new recipes. A good example is the 'I Need a Beer Salsa'.

The salsa got its name because it was so good, the only thing to go with it is a beer, Dawson said.

If you've been to Wintergreen before, don't make the mistake of thinking you know what it's all about. Stop in and see what Dawson has in store for you, and share it with your friends and family this holiday season.

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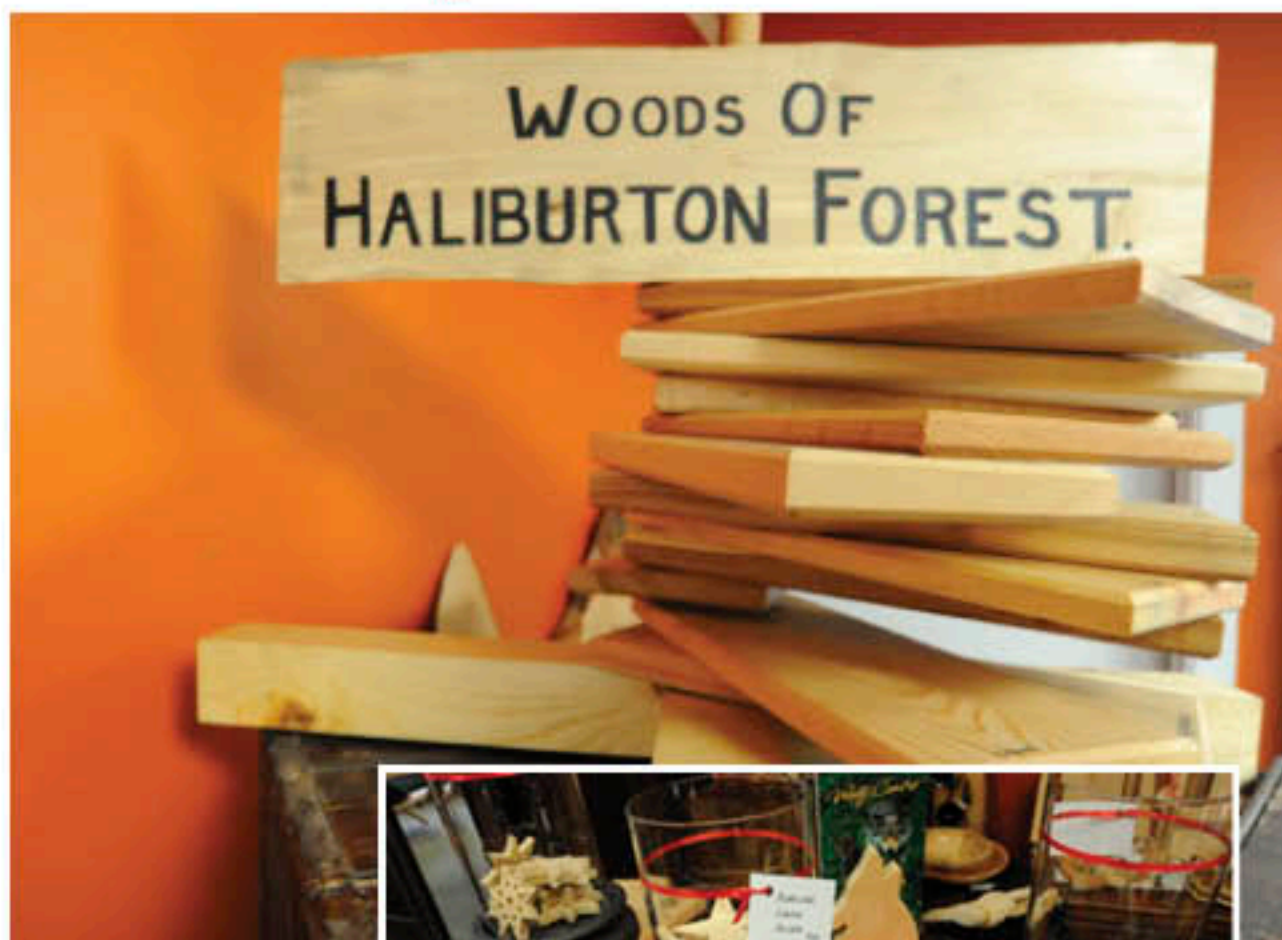
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Shoplocal



Photos by Mark Arike
The Forest Store boasts a variety of handmade unique items created using wood from the Haliburton Forest.

Wonders of wood

By Mark Arike

If you're after something that's locally made, a trip to the Forest Store is a must.

"It's an outlet for the woodshop and to promote The Forest in town as well," said Anna Schleifenbaum, manager of the Huntsville store.

The Haliburton store, which opened on the May long weekend of 2011, is owned and operated by the Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve Ltd.

"We've had the showroom at the woodshop itself, but it just wasn't enough exposure," said Schleifenbaum, whose father Peter came up with the concept for the store.

The store features one-of-a-kind wood products that have come to be from wood harvested within the 80,000 acres of the Forest.

"Besides the fact that we exclusively sell sustainable, local, handcrafted products, we also have antiques which come from Ireland," said Schleifenbaum. "It's a completely different style from what you would usually find."

Visitors to the store can also learn about what else the Haliburton Forest has to offer.

"We can help them with their reservations and also provide them information for anything that is going on at the Forest."

At the store, there's something for everyone and their budget. Ornaments start at \$3 and other items go up from there. Those looking to do some Christmas shopping can take advantage of the 24 days of Christmas sales, which ends on Dec. 24.

"Everyday we have a different product that is either on sale or comes with another product."

Popular selections worth checking out include the shiitake logs and turned burl salad bowls.

Haliburton's Forest Store is open Tuesdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the winter and seven days a week in the summer. It is located at 171 Highland St.

For more information visit www.haliburtonforest.com or call 705-457-2000.

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Shoplocal

Robinson's offers complete Highlands experience

By Matthew Desrosiers

Sometimes shopping local is about more than just the items you buy.

It's about an experience.

Tucked away in Dorset, Robinson's General Store is one of Haliburton County's true gems.

The store has been in Joanne Robinson's family since 1921. Over the years, it has developed a certain 'je ne sais quoi', she said.

"The building is a strange shape, and you never know what you're going to find around the corner. There's an atmosphere here."

Originally 1,200 square feet, the owners have built 15 additions to keep up with the store's growth.

Voted as Canada's best country store, Robinson's has a wide mix of products. But one in particular stands out.

"Moccasins are our specialty," Robinson said. "All of our moccasins are made in Canada, and that's getting hard and harder to do."

Moccasins that say they are proudly Canadian do not necessarily mean they are actually made here, she said.

The store also boasts hardware, toys, games, groceries, souvenirs, and the list goes on.

"It's a mix of products that you don't find in a lot of places."

You never know what you might find on the shelves at Robinson's which is one of the reasons so many people stop in. It's different every time you go.

"It's just a very different shopping experience than Wal-Mart."

This small-town store tries to support its community where it can by stocking local products like maple syrup.

"We have fairly locally-made jam, and if it's something we can get locally, we try to do that."

Even if your Christmas shopping is done, a stop in at Robinson's General Store in Dorset is never a wasted trip. Visit their site on www.robinsonsgeneralstore.ca for more information on the store and its long history in Dorset.

"There's an atmosphere here."

Joanne Robinson

Owner, Robinson's General Store



Photo submitted by Joanne Robinson


If you visit Robinson's General Store don't forget to say hi to Bruno.



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Photo by Walt Griffin

Madeinhaliburton.ca operates online. Pictured above was the location of their temporary gallery in the summer.

Site sells art made in Highlands

By Matthew Desrosiers

The name of the business says it all.

Madeinhaliburton.ca is a website where the county's artists can sell their work online.

Marie Gage, who owns and operates the site alongside her husband Don, said everything on the website was made by people who live or cottage in the Highlands.

The site includes literary, visual and performing arts.

"What we do is support the artists in three categories," she said. "People will find books, music and tickets to local events, in addition to a variety of arts from all artistic media."

There are 54 artists represented on the website, with more being added regularly, she said. Their work includes paintings, sculptures, wire sculptures, fabric art, fabric sculptures and more.

"We may not have all of them yet, but we have quite a variety."

For those who enjoy shopping online, madeinhaliburton.ca

boasts 500 items to browse through. Methods of payment include credit card and paypal. Purchased items will be shipped through the most cost effective means, Gage said.

"We actually shipped quite a bit internationally, particularly the R.D. Lawrence books and DVD."

They have also shipped pottery as far as China, Australia and England.

Walking through Minden, you might notice a large sign at the corner of Bobcaygeon Rd. and Water St. for the site. Over the summer, this was the location of a walk-in gallery for two months to promote the site. However, the gallery is no longer open. All items are sold strictly online.

If you're looking for more of a stocking stuffer than a nice wall piece, madeinhaliburton.ca has something to offer.

"There is a blog attached to the website that we are constantly doing updates [on] about things that are going on in the community," Gage said. "It's a good place to visit if you're looking for events. Tickets are great stocking stuffers."

Visit www.madeinhaliburton.ca to see what Highlands artists are offering this holiday season.



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Shoplocal



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Linkert Country Bakery owner Janet Barker (left) and baker Theresa Davidson show off some tasty baked goods.

Bakery showers county in cakes

By Matthew Desrosiers

It's Christmas time, and you know what that means. Tasty treats.

Bakers everywhere are busy making our favourite goodies for the holiday season, from mint squares to chocolate turtles and cookies. And you can't forget fruitcake.

It's unlikely anyone in the county has made as many fruitcakes as the bakers at Linkert's Country Bakery in Wilberforce. The bakers there have made over 13,000 of them this year alone.

The bakery is a staple in the Highlands. If you've ever bought a cake from a Highlands Shriner, it probably came from Linkert's. But don't make the mistake of overlooking their shortbread. If you value your waistline, make sure no one leaves you alone with a box.

Although the retail side of the bakery has closed for the

most part, owner Janet Barker said she still enjoys when people stop in to visit. The bakery had to transition to a more concentrated, commercial approach to stay in business.

At one time, Linkert's was making fresh bread and a large variety of treats using recipes passed down from the bakery's founder, Murray Linkert. While the variety of goods offered may have decreased, the quality and taste has not diminished over the years. Linkert's bakers use only natural ingredients with no added preservatives or artificial flavours.

The bakery's products are available for sale in certain locations in the county, including Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce and Cranberry Cottage in Haliburton. You can also purchase cakes online at www.linkertcountrybakery.ca.

If you want some help with your baking this holiday season, or just want to support a business that is ingrained in Haliburton's history, then consider some tasty treats from Linkert's Country Bakery.

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Where art finds a home

By Mark Arike

The Art Hive is a place full of talent, treasures and the kinds of unique items that only artists can create.

"One thing that makes us unique is that we're the only gallery or store that only sells Haliburton County artists work," said Erin Lynch, co-director of The Art Hive.

Located in the historical Welch's General Store at 10239 Hwy. 118, The Art Hive is the home base of the Maple Lake Artisans Collective. It has experienced significant growth over the past five years and is now a not-for-profit, incorporated co-op.

"This will allow us to apply for grants," said Lynch.

The Art Hive is an artist-run operation that currently has 13 artist members. Their work hangs on the walls, is on display and can be purchased at all times of the year. With a membership, artists are able to decide how they want their work to be displayed.

"You have a lot more control," she said,

adding that the artists can bring their ideas to monthly meetings and receive feedback from their peers.

At The Art Hive one will find a variety of media, including: paintings, ceramics, stained glass, printmaking, jewellery, fibre and wood.

To ensure a high standard of quality, artists are accepted to the organization through a jurying process.

"We want [as a business] to be able to stand behind our work and be proud," said Lynch. "So we have high expectations."

Holiday shoppers looking for something special will find items that fit their budget.

"We have things ranging in price from \$6 to \$1,500."

The Art Hive

also offers fall/winter workshops and regularly hosts events with community partners.

The store is open for holiday shopping everyday until Dec. 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Dec. 24.

For more information visit www.thearthive.com.



Photo by Mark Arike

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Shoplocal

Five creative Christmas craft ideas

By Heather Kennedy

I was asked to put my crafty skills to work to promote creativity and shopping local. I have set some new goals for this festive season: try to create all my gifts and decorations. Now here's a list of products that you can get from a local store such as V&S Department Store.

Yarn: I'm getting creative with yarn. There are many things to be made from it. I have started with crocheting, the simple single stitch and the double stitch. I have now created three infinity scarves. Simple, yet a lovely gift for anyone. It's not hard to learn, and when you get the hang of it, there's no limit to what you can make.

Stationary: Using paper, staples and tape you can create beautiful three-dimensional snowflakes to decorate your home or office. Some of you may have seen these from some recent postings on Pinterest. This is a great and inexpensive way to create something unique and beautifully simple. Use different colours of paper to mix things up a bit.

Here are some step-by-step instructions for creating the 3D snowflakes. You'll need six pieces of paper (white copy paper will do, although you can use more elaborate types), scissors, clear tape and a stapler.

Fold each of the six pieces of paper in half, diagonally. If the paper you are using does not make a perfect triangle, cut off the rectangular edge that sticks out and make it align perfectly. You should end up with a square folded into a triangle. Fold the square in half again, noting where the folded "bottom" of the triangle is.

Cut three lines in the triangle. Position the scissors along the bottom fold and parallel to one of the edges going up to the top (your cuts should be somewhat diagonal). Cut almost all the way up to one of the side edges, but not quite. Keep about the same distance between each cut.

Unfold the triangle again. Turn it so that one of the points of the square faces you.

Keeping your paper diamond side-up, roll the first two innermost paper lines together to form a tube. Tape these two pieces together. You should see triangle shapes on each side of the roll.

Turn the diamond over to the other side. Take the next two paper lines and pull them together on the opposite side of the tube and tape together as before. This will be a more rounded shape and wider than the first tube.

Keep turning the paper and joining the paper lines together on opposite side in the same fashion until all paper lines have been joined.

Repeat these steps with the remaining five pieces of paper.

Join three of the completed rolled pieces together at one end and staple together using the other hand. Do the other three pieces the same way. Now you will have two pieces consisting of three strands or "arms" each.

Staple the two new pieces together in the middle.

Staple where each of the six arms meet. This ensures that the



snowflake shape is pulled into place.

Now, attach some string and find a place that could use a little winter décor.

Embroidery thread or gimp: Christmas is all about your friends and your family. Friendship bracelets are great stocking stuffers. You can make patterned designs or just use nice Christmas colours.

Acrylic paint: There are many items you can create using acrylic paints. I think that the best ones are custom ornaments. These custom and completely unique gifts and decorations are very inexpensive. All you have to do is purchase some plain Christmas balls and get creative. I suggest a winter landscape or something personal, like initials.

Christmas balls: What to do with Christmas balls? Buy some Christmas balls, any colour you like. Buy some pipe and spray paint it silver or gold (depending on the colour of Christmas balls). Now get a glue gun and use it to glue the Christmas balls onto the pipe. To finish it off top it with a bow.

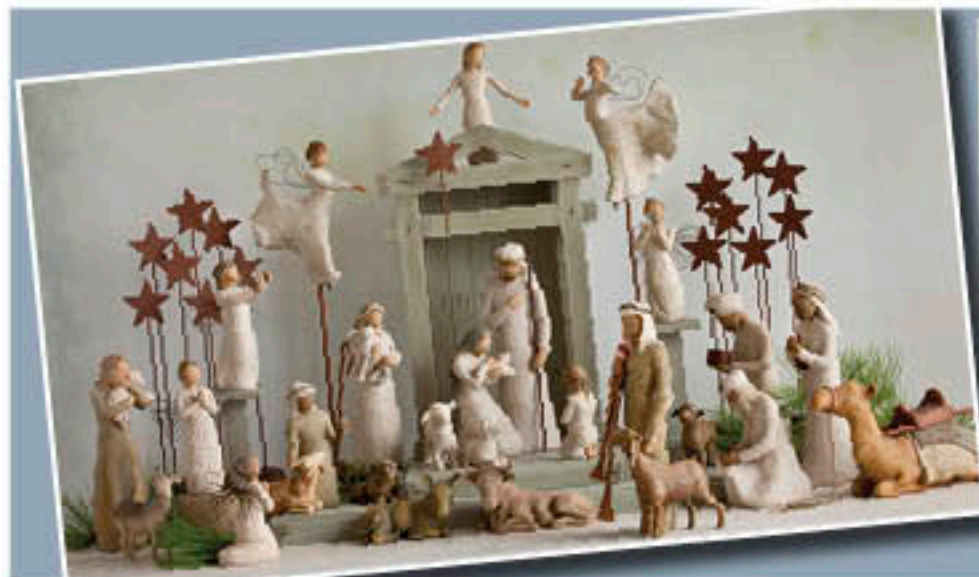
These are just a few creative ideas to keep the family busy. You can make all of these items, and more, using simple things found at your local general or department store.

Step-by-step snowflake instructions from Pinterest users.



Photos by Matthew Desrosiers and Heather Kennedy

Top: Heather Kennedy shows off a snowflake ornament she made using easy to find materials. Above: You'd be amazed what you can make with yarn and a little know-how.



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Highlander outdoors

Trout clipped

By Matthew Desrosiers

The cycle continues at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association's fish hatchery.

David Flowers, fisheries extension biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), along with volunteers and students from North Hastings High School's Northern Outdoor Studies program clipped the fins of 11,000 lake trout that were hatched at the facility earlier in the year.

The clippings took place over two days. On Dec. 6, 12 hatchery volunteers clipped 3,500 fish. The rest were completed by volunteers and the students on Dec. 11.

Fin clippings are done on a five-year rotation where each year a different fin is clipped. This allows the MNR to determine the age of the fish based on size and which fin was clipped.

This year, the Adipose fin was clipped.

The fish are grown to about 25 grams before they are ready for clipping. At this point in their development they can be safely handled, Flowers said.

The lake trout are treated with a chemical called Tricaine Methanesulfonate (TMS), which calms the fish enough that they no longer thrash about. This gives the volunteers time to safely clip the fin without damaging the trout.

Flowers said fin clipping is an important part of the lake stocking process.

"It's important to document the success of these [lake] stockings," he said. "Do the fish survive to maturity, and what fish from what years are being caught by the anglers?"

Flowers said it is particularly important to differentiate between the hatchery fish and wild fish in lakes they are trying to rehabilitate with local native strains.

"For lakes stocked for rehabilitation purposes, it's important to identify hatchery fish from wild, natural fish," he said. "In



Photo by Mark Arike

Several students line up to clip the fins of lake trout at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery.

the early years of a stocking program one would expect to see many stocked fish in the population. In future years, as these fish reach maturity and start to reproduce in the lake, we would expect to see more natural fish showing up in the population. At that time, the ratio of clipped fish (hatchery fish) to non-clipped fish (wild fish) should begin to change."

If the rehabilitation stocking is successful, Flowers said he would expect to stop stocking at some point as more wild fish show up in the population.

Flowers said these fish will be released in the spring to stock lakes in the Highlands.

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Highlander sports



Red Hawks hammer the Griffins 7-2

By Warren Riley

The players were psyched up and nothing was going to stop their determination.

Coach Ron Yake gave his final spiel and the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) Red Hawks starting lineup left the bench. The puck was dropped and the battle for ice supremacy began. That's the way it went between the Boys Red Hawks Midget hockey team and the TSA Griffins on Dec. 6 in Minden.

From the outset, the Red Hawks dominated the ice which infuriated the Griffins. Numerous penalties were called against both teams including several unsportsmanlike conducts, a major to the Griffins and roughing. Undeterred, the Red Hawks refused to relent and kept pounding away at the Griffins' goalie. The score was 3-1 Red Hawks at the end of the first period.

Both Griffins and Red Hawks continued their aggressive play in the second period.

The game had now become personal for both clubs. Red Hawk's #9 Stewart Chaulk and #7 Tanner Hamilton were great wheels keeping the puck continuously in the Griffins' end adding three more goals to the scoreboard. Griffin forwards #12 and #98 tried valiantly to score on Red Hawks' goalie #1 Brayden Frost but to no avail.

Halfway through the second period, Yake pulled goalie Frost replaced by #33 Jordan Hamilton. A double infraction by the Griffins allowed the Red Hawks to score again making the score 6-1.

The third period saw both teams score a goal, ending the game 7-2.

Coach Yake described his reaction to his team's win.

"Our first game was exciting," he said. "It was fun to get it going as it has been a while. Our guys had fun and we had a lot of returning guys. We have 10 returning guys from last year and they are a year better."

"We were a little sloppy in some situations



Photos by Warren Riley

Top: Red Hawks Kieran Poropat and Tanner Hamilton fight for possession. Above: Red Hawks #26 backhands the puck at the Griffins' goalie.

but that was our first game together. It was nice to have both goalies in and get a chance to play."

Yake wasn't happy with the start of the game.

"We had a shaky start with a couple of penalties but we got going and rolling. One of the keys I try to do is get everyone in the game and get a quick shift. I want them to get the speed going and the energy going and it took over in the third period. Keep moving

the puck and things will happen."

"It was a very hard-checking game," Yake commented. "We've got some really big guys that can handle their checking and some of our younger guys can handle checking just as well."

"We've got a game in now and that's exciting for us. We've also got tougher games to come, that's for sure, but this one was good to get under our belt."

Highlander sports

The Farm rides into winner's circle



By Marguerite Easby

Haliburton County is home to a group of girls and young women who represent The Farm (Eagle Lake) and coach Lorrie McCauley by participating in various equestrian competitions both in and out of the county.

The team (consisting of residents and cottagers) wins ribbons and prizes on a regular basis, and this past show season has been one of the best.

Locally, the series of four equestrian competitions (May to August) run by the Northern Ontario Horseman's Association (NOHA) provides an opportunity for young people to compete at an introductory level.

Started two years ago by Janice Barry, the NOHA helps young riders showcase their skills in a friendly, safe environment. Run at the Minden fairgrounds by dedicated volunteers, these competitions have both Western and English classes, including showmanship, English/Western pleasure, jumping, and games. All participants are members of the Ontario Equestrian Federation and the NOHA's rules and regulations are in line with this professional organization. This year's awards banquet was held on Nov. 17 at the Minden legion, during which the Farm's team was honoured formally.

Agricultural fairs are an integral part of southern Ontario culture. This year the team competed successfully in several of these. Jordan Rowden was particularly impressive, becoming grand champion at Fenelon Falls and Severn Bridge Fall fairs, and youth grand champion at the Haliburton County Fair. Also, at Severn Bridge, Ceilidh Kim competed superbly, becoming reserve grand champion. Hunter McTeague is emotional, yet humble, in talking about her achievement as reserve grand champion at the Sunderland fair.

"There were about 20 horses in the ring and I was so surprised and so proud of my horse that I felt like crying."

Competitions beyond the level of local schooling shows and county fairs are the goal of most of the team members. This year Lindsay Dawson participated in the Lindsay Agricultural Society's (LEX) Hunter Jumper Show series, and was champion in her division.

Being part of any successful team means working together. Kim's favourite memories are, of course, about personal achievement, but she also appreciates "spending time at the Farm with my teammates and getting to have opportunities to take care of the horses." Even when the veterinarian comes out to the Farm, she and Lorrie let the team members assist and ask questions.

In riding as in any sport, success can make difficult tasks look easy. For Kim, things were not always perfect.

"At the beginning of the season when I was still getting used to riding my horse, Patti, I could not get the fear of jumping out of my head, so whenever I went to jump, Patti would refuse. Thanks to my coach, Lorrie, I was able to overcome my fear."

McTeague also speaks about the amount of improvement in her jumping position that constant practice and coaching provided.

Success at local schooling shows like the NOHA provides the confidence and experience for riders to look further afield as they establish their goals for the upcoming show season. The Trillium Hunter Jumper circuit, which boasts a high standard of competition, is considered the next step for riders who are eager to progress. It is a goal of several of the Farm's team members. Experience in the NOHA shows has given Kim enough confidence to establish clear goals for 2013.

"My current riding goal is to place in the top 10 in Short Stirrups on the Trillium circuit in the 12 and under age group."

For Rowden as well, the achievements of 2012 have encouraged her to consider placing higher and in more classes, but ultimately "to compete in Trillium Jumpers."

Even as the team thinks of soaring to new heights next year, they are sensitive to the very special environment that organizations like the NOHA provide. Dawson believes that the local shows are more personal.

"A lot of the competitors now know each other, so it's fun to see how everyone is doing and to show off the progress you've made with your own horse."

The Farm: Awards 2012

Lindsay Dawson

Lindsay LEX Show (August 12): Champion of her division, overall grand champion.

Ceilidh Kim

NOHA: Grand champion, reserve Youth Dash for Cash, barrels, youth barrels, open trail, command, youth horsemanship, open English pleasure, open helter, open horsemanship.

Hunter McTeague

NOHA: Reserve champion: youth pole bending, youth keyhole, open jumper level 2, youth English pleasure, open English pleasure. Sunderland Fall Fair: Reserve grand champion.

Jordan Rowden

NOHA: Reserve champion: open carrot race, youth barrels, open and youth showmanship, open western pleasure. NOHA Champion: Open trail, youth western pleasure, open horsemanship, open pairs, youth English pleasure. Fenelon Falls Horse Show: Grand champion. Haliburton County Fair: Youth grand champion. Severn Bridge Fall Fair: Grand champion.

Gillian Taylor

NOHA: Reserve Open horsemanship.

Drew Todd

NOHA: Champion: open pairs.



Photos submitted by Jordan Rowden

Top: Mounted left to right are Jordan Rowden, Hunter McTeague, Ceilidh Kim, Brooklyn Rushton and Drew Todd. Standing from left to right are Genevieve Stevenson and Lorrie McCauley. Above: Drew Todd and Doc's Pocomotion.

Highlander sports

Hamilton shuts the door ——— Athletes to watch

By Warren Riley

The object is round, black, dangerous and fast. Its trajectory is aimed directly at you with the sole purpose of entering the net you are protecting.

You know its trajectory as it speeds toward the net hidden amongst a myriad of legs. You are well-padded, goal stick in hand and ready to stop or deflect it off course. Instinctively, your arm goes high into the air with glove wide open.

The puck slams hard into the palm of your glove and you immediately draw your arm towards your chest. Fall to the ice amid a spray of ice crystals. The referee's whistle blows and horns blast from the bleachers. You're a goalie and your name is Jordan Hamilton of the Highland Storm Midgets hockey team.

Hamilton has played goalie for many years and will continue in the foreseeable future. He enjoys the action playing for the Midgets

and contributing to the club by preventing his opponents from scoring.

Hockey has been his passion.

"I've played hockey since I was little," said Hamilton.

"I want to continue playing in this sport or another sport if hockey isn't available."

Besides taking four or more school subjects, he juggles many sports activities.

"Of all the sports, I like hockey and being a goalie. I am contributing to the team and supporting the players. It's a great team and the guys help me a lot."

Hamilton doesn't have a goal in mind for his future but will continue to consider a choice when the time is right.

"I'm open right now [to a career] but I will look at possibilities when they come my way."

As a shining example for his team, Hamilton shows excellent qualities in goaltending. He wants his team to win and refuses to allow the speeding puck to enter his protected domain.



Photo by Warren Riley

Storm avenge losses

Submitted by Jon Petrie

There are always games that you look forward to on the schedule.

Statement games; games that mean more than simply a win or loss. These are games that show what your team is capable of. For Smolen Dentistry's Highland Storm PeeWee A's, Saturday's two-game away stand against an undefeated Parry Sound squad were exactly those kinds of games.

Saturday's first game started with our team playing very strong but a six minute hull in the second period showed that Parry Sound can do a lot of damage very quickly when given the opportunity.

Devyn Prentice started the scoring in the first but Parry Sound quickly tied it. Owen Smith put us out in front again and Kyle Cooper followed with a nice goal as he was falling down after being checked. A penalty shot by Parry Sound provided some tense moments but Josh Bellefleur was up to the task and the opportunity was denied.

Ben Schmidt then followed up with a beautiful glove high shot and things appeared to be well in hand for our squad – that's when the bottom fell out. Six minutes and three quick goals and the game was suddenly tied going into the third period.

Despite the set-back the Storm rallied and Alex Petrie found the back of the net off the face-off to put us back in the lead. It was not to be though, and with five minutes left Parry Sound's star player broke free to tie it up once and for all, 5-5.

The second game started with Parry Sound taking command by scoring two goals right away. This time it was our boys turn to comeback. Petrie scored first after some fine passing with Cooper but Parry Sound responded to make it 3-1. Before the end of the second, Schmidt, on a feed by Smith, brought our boys back to within one.

In the third period, the Storm put it all together. Cooper tied it up and Petrie's pass in front to Smith had us up by one.

Parry Sound managed to tie it one more time but our crew took control quickly after that. Jacob Haedicke made a nice long pass up to Schmidt who followed up to score on his own rebound and then completed the hat-trick off the face-off quickly after that. In the final minute, Parry Sound pulled their goalie but Nik Dollo put the game away for good. Final score 7-4.

Congratulations boys, your heart and determination show that you are capable of beating anyone.

Be sure to come out and cheer on the boys as they try to avenge an earlier loss to Huntsville this Saturday, Dec. 15 in Minden at 6:00 pm.

Results:

First Place – Matt Sexsmith (cadet 89 kg), Nicole Honderich (44 kg), Maia O'Sullivan (64 kg)
Second Place – Matt Pheaton (cadet 41 kg), Keith Burley (89 kg), Caitlyn Griffin (51 kg)
Third Place – Lucas Esson (cadet 72 kg), Marques Bortolussi (cadet 77 kg), Cody Cox (61 kg)

Red Hawks successful on the mat

Submitted by Paul Klose

On Dec. 5, the Red Hawk Wrestling Team travelled to Peterborough to compete at the Kenner Rams Wrestling Tournament.

Overall, coaches Fockler and Klose were pleased with the results. They were especially impressed with the performances given by the male rookies on the team. A solid group of eight junior boys joined the team this year

and they show great potential.

"They are athletic, they have good instincts and they enjoy the sport. It makes coaching them a true pleasure and they like learning new technique. It's great to have this group of young men in the mat room."

The veteran wrestlers on the team led by example. All senior Red Hawks advanced to the finals with solid matches throughout the day.

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Fax 705-457-3074

E-mail: rselbie@onsibn.com

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Midget Storm girls drop pair in Toronto

Submitted by Dan Marsden

The Minden Car Quest/Canadian Tire Midget 'BB' Storm girls' hockey team dropped a pair of games on the road Dec. 8 in Toronto.

Our first game against Leaside in the morning held many scoring opportunities for both sides. Leaside tipped the scale in their favour with a 3-1 win over the Highland Storm squad. Jessica Duchene was the lone Storm sniper with a quick snap shot beating the goalie on the short side off a nice cycle play mid-way through the third period.

The Storm girls played their second game in an evening tilt with the Scarborough Sharks. Again, many scoring chances were created by both sides. Alicia McLean put home a rebound off a scramble in front of the Scarborough netminder late in the third period to bring the score to 2-1. We could not pop in another goal to tie the game and the score remained the same.

Keep up the efforts in generating scoring chances girls. The puck is starting to bounce in our favour. Next home game is Saturday, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. against the Westnorthumberland Wild.

Highlander classifieds

SERVICES

DRIVER SERVICE – seniors, get where you need to go with Driving Miss Daisy! Take the worry out of getting to appointments, shopping and social events. Airport shuttle available. Approved by Veterans Affairs & fully insured. Call Dianna toll free at 1-877-613-2479. (TFN)

SIMPLY GOOD HOUSEKEEPING – since 1999 that is simply what I do – clean your house so you don't have to. Serving Minden, Haliburton, Bancroft areas. Year-round, seasonal, weekly, biweekly, monthly or as needed. Residential, cottage, commercial. Final clean upon moving. Cottage checks in off-season or as needed. References available. 705-448-1178 dogpawledge@gmail.com. (TFN)

BONNIE'S POODLES & DOODLES – voted groomer, trainer, breeder of top dogs in Canada by Canadian Kennel Club since 1979. Truly a master groomer. Just east of Stanhope Airport Road, Hwy 118. 705-754-1477 (TFN)

K9 KLIPPERS & KENNELS – professional grooming and a home away from home. 2153 Harburn Rd. 705-457-3614. (TFN)

CANOE RESTORATIONS & MAINTENANCE – restore that heirloom. Check out Facebook page – Ben Camochan Haliburton Canoe Company. Call for estimate 705-754-2548. (TFN)

SERVICES

SILVERNAIL, Minden ON – 705-286-1719. 40 years experience specializing in smaller projects and maintenance, reasonable rates, snowplowing, carpentry, minor electrical & plumbing, interior & exterior painting, cottage rentals, yard clean-up. paul.duffy@sympatico.ca

FREE GARBAGE REMOVAL of anything free for your cast-offs or we can make a deal to buy furniture, boats, etc. One piece or entire contents, plus small building demolition and take away. I will save you money. 705-448-3920. (TFN)

CAT-SITTING IN YOUR HOME, including mail and home checks to keep your insurance valid while away. Former veterinary assistant, police-checked, responsible person with 25 years experience cat-sitting. Enjoy your holidays – there's no place like home for your cat while you're away. Contact Lisa at 705-457-5091 or haliburtoncats@gmail.com. (DE13)

FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH – High quality – granite countertops, hardwood floors. No pets, no smoking. Looking for responsible tenant. \$1,500 including heat and hydro. Call 705-457-2987 – evenings. (TFN)

FOR RENT

CLEAN, SINGLE BEDROOM side split apartment in Carnarvon, includes storage unit and private driveway. No dogs, available December 1st. \$700/month, all inclusive. Call 705-457-6077. (TFN)

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT between Minden & Haliburton, \$585.00, utilities included. First & last required, no pets, references required. Available now. Call Neil at (705) 854-1505 (TFN)

HALIBURTON VILLAGE, 3 bed/2 bath, large eat-in kitchen, main-floor laundry, detached single-car garage, large level lot, walk to amenities. No pets, no smoking, references required. \$1,175.00 per month, plus utilities. Call Petrini Construction, 705-457-2754 (TFN)

VERY NICE ONE BEDROOM apartment in Minden, \$550 for one person or \$625/couple, ALL INCL. Own entrance, ground level, parking, lots of windows, wash machine, cathedral ceiling, forest view, right in Minden. First & last, references required. Available December 1. Call 286-1762 or 286-0237 (TFN)

3 BEDROOM – Main level of house in Haliburton. 1,250 sqft. \$1,000/mth, all inclusive. References required. Call 705-457-0701 or 705-457-2987. (TFN)

FOR SALE

HALIBURTON VILLAGE – 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home on level lot. \$1,250 + utilities. Non smoker, must be responsible, references required. 705-457-2987 or 705-457-0701. (TFN) FOR SALE

NICELY SEASONED FIREWOOD. Dunloe Farm. Call 705-754-3034. (DE27)

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325 HP 60 OVER 350 Braswell Carb. 1979 Chevy Suncraft Van, 17HP, Kawasaki engine. Call 705-447-2037. (DE13)

TRACTOR CHAINS – 24" x 7" with ice bars, \$100. 26" x 8", heavy duty, \$150. Call 705-447-2551. (DE20)

FOR SALE

2000 GMC SAVANAH – 3500, contractors, interior DC cab buffer, storage racks, insulated floor. 18k on new GM installed engine (not rebuilt), well maintained. Includes snow tires, hitch and wiring. Sacrifice \$4,900 certified. Phone 705-455-2818. (DE13)

TRACTOR & TRUCK CHAINS, all sizes. 1-800-964-9998. (JA31)

50KW DIESEL GENERATOR portable on trailer, 6.2L Ford motor. Completely gone over, ready to go. 120-240, also set up for 308 + 480. \$7,000 OBO. 705-741-6097. (JA31)

TRACTOR CHAINS – 13-6 x 24, 5/8 chain. \$530 brand new. Slightly used, asking \$330. 705-741-6097. (JA31)

INVERTOR GENERATOR – 3,000 watts. Manual pull, brand new, \$850. 705-741-6097. (JA31)

FOR SALE

BRIGGS & STRATTON PROPANE GENERATOR – 15kw, brand new, 3 year warranty. Complete with electric box. \$4,700. 705-741-6097. (JA31)

HELP WANTED

ROCKCLIFFE TAVERN is looking for an individual able to work varied hours. Experience is preferred. Please drop off resume, 98 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden. (TFN)

EVENTS

ALCOHOL PROBLEMS – call Alcoholics Anonymous – we care. 705-324-9900. (TFN)

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NA) – every Wednesday, 7-8 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Haliburton Hospital. (TFN)

NOTICE

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF HALIBURTON PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF the Municipal Act; and IN THE MATTER OF a proposed by-law of the Corporation of the County of Haliburton to convey to the adjoining landowner, an inaccessible portion of property, situated in part of Lot 4 Concession 1, within the Geographic Township of Minden, in the Municipality of Minden Hills.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 34(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.28, as amended, that the Council of the Corporation of the County of Haliburton proposes to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass at its meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of the Administration Building on Newcastle Street, in the Village of Minden, Ontario, on January 23, 2013, a by-law to convey a parcel of land described as follows:

Portion of inaccessible lands, situated in Part of Lot 4, Concession 1 in the Geographic Township of Minden, in the Municipality of Minden Hills designated as Part No. 1, as shown on Plan 19R 1121 registered AUGUST 10, 1976.

The plan of survey is available for inspection at the Roads Department Office, 3 St. Germaine St., Minden, Ontario during office business hours, (8:30 am. to 4:30 pm., Monday to Friday)

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-law at its meeting to be held as noted above, the Council of the County of Haliburton shall then and there hear in person, or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-law and who applies to be heard.

DATED at Minden, this 30th day of November, 2012.

Enquiries may be directed to:

Angela Horner, Administrative Assistant
Phone: (705) 216-1762
Fax No.: (705) 286-4881
Email: ahorner@county.haliburton.on.ca

IN MEMORY

In remembrance of Murray 'Pappy' Linkert,

We miss your infectious laughter and smelly cigar every day, but especially now during 'cake season'. It's the fourth year we've done this without you, but we're just now gradually realizing the lasting impact you had on our lives, on the way we live them out. Thanks doesn't begin to cut it! We know your flight is an amazing one, and that the flowers are beyond beautiful. You'll never be forgotten, but always missed beyond measure.



Love, Pappy's Crew

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Highlander events

Minden Hills celebrates its community volunteers

By Matthew Desrosiers

Minden Hills community volunteers gathered at the community centre on Dec. 6 for the municipality's annual volunteer recognition event.

Reeve Barb Reid thanked the volunteers for all their work throughout the year. She said without their efforts, the year wouldn't have been as successful as it was.

"Thank you for all the time and energy that you put into helping us find the way forward," she said. "Your council is so grateful and pleased for the service you've given us. Without your help, we wouldn't be doing what we're doing."

Reid then called up Donna Monk to present the Gordon A. Monk Award for volunteerism to Helen Burke.

"She's just a super lady," Monk said. "I'm very pleased she is the recipient."

Burke is very involved in her church. She works on community suppers and pancake breakfasts. She also makes preserves for the church and helps with church sales.

Lois Rigney presented the next award, named in honour of her late husband Ross Rigney, who was the Snowdon reeve and the first reeve of Minden Hills.

The first-ever Ross Rigney Civics Youth award recognizes a youth who has demonstrated noteworthy achievements and leadership within the community. It was awarded to Drew Hewitt.

Hewitt is a 16-year-old Grade 12 student at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS).

"He is actively involved in volunteer work within our community," Rigney said. "Once a month, he entertains the senior citizens at Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) with his music."

He has volunteered time to the municipality to help consult on the skateboard park next to the arena, and in the summer was an instructor there for youth every other Monday. He has volunteered with the Highland Yard, Walk for Cancer and Make It Minden events.

"Each student must do 40 volunteer hours within their community," Rigney said. "He is credited with 117

volunteer hours."

Hewitt also works with kids who have mental conditions, having volunteered with autistic children at the Special Olympics.

"He spends his lunch hour at the school with the mentally challenged students in a program called Lunch Buddies," Rigney said.

Hewitt was thrilled with the award.

"It's a great honour," he said. "It feels spectacular."

His motivation is to repay those people who have had an impact in his life.

"Those people that did those things for me, my cousins, they gave me gifts I feel I can't give back to them. It just inspires me and pushes me to give those gifts to other people."

Hewitt is inspired by people of all ages who are empathetic and compassionate, he said.

"They make me look up to them no matter what age group they are. I find when I do things for other people it does a lot for me, too."

The last award of the evening, the Good Neighbour Award, was presented to local farmer Casey Cox.

In the nomination letter, the person who put his name forward wrote that what the world needs now are more people like him.

Cox is always willing to help anyone who asks, whether they need a tool, help in their yard or to pull their car from a ditch. He's always reliable, the letter said.

If you ask him, Cox will tell you it's just what he does.

"[It's] surprising, really," he said. "You don't expect it. You don't expect people to send in letters and nominate you for something you just do."

Being a good neighbour is not uncommon in this community, he said.

"It's always a two-way street. You help somebody out, they'll come help you out. That's what it's all about."

"Our community is like that," Cox said. "Our community helps everyone out. There [aren't] too many people you couldn't phone in this community [for help]."

"We've got to help one another out."

The Computer Guy iMac woes

By David Spaxman



By David Spaxman

The electronics website iFixit on Friday downgraded the new 21.5-inch iMac's repair score to three out of a possible 10, calling servicing the computer "an exercise in disappointment."

"Hackers, tinkers, and repairers be forewarned: get last year's model if you'd like to alter your machine in any way," said Miroslav Djuric, iFixit's chief information architect, in an e-mail announcing the site's teardown of the newest iMac.

Apple started selling the redesigned 21.5-inch iMac on Friday at its retail and online stores. The larger, more expensive 27-inch iMac is to ship later this month.

After disassembling the iMac, iFixit assigned the all-in-one desktop a repair score of just three out of 10; the 2011 version of the same-sized iMac sported a friendlier score of seven out of 10.

Explaining the iMac's low score, iFixit cited the large amounts of "incredibly strong" adhesive that bonds the LCD and front glass panel to the frame. Earlier iMacs fixed the display in place with magnets rather than the hard-to-dislodge glue, which is even harder to replace.

Just as damning was an Apple design decision that makes it practically impossible for users to upgrade the iMac's RAM. The 21.5-inch iMac comes standard with 8GB of memory and can be upgraded to 16GB, but because the RAM is buried beneath the logic board, owners must "take apart most of the iMac just to gain access," iFixit said.

Older 21.5-inch iMacs had four external RAM slots that were easily accessed by users.

Apple mentions the impracticality of memory upgrade only in a side note hidden on the iMac's options page. There, Apple said: "Every 21.5-inch iMac comes with 8GB of memory built into the computer. If you think you may need 16GB of memory in the future, it is important to upgrade at the time of purchase, because memory cannot be upgraded later in this model."

The not-yet-available 27-inch iMac will continue to sport four external memory slots. Customers can boost the RAM at the time of ordering to 16GB (for an extra \$200) or 32GB (\$600), but those prices are exorbitant compared to third-party RAM that users install themselves. An additional 8GB of memory, which would raise the iMac's total to 16GB, costs just \$40 at Crucial.com, for example.

Don't forget to send in your idea for the "Name the Next Microsoft Operating System Contest" and win a HP Photosmart Printer. Send it to the email below.

For questions or comments, e-mail me at computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

A Magical Evening of Music

Kate Campbell & The Nick Mancini Trio

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Monday Dec. 17 at 8 p.m. Northern Lights Pavilion

With Special Guests

Melissa Stephens & The Highlands Male Chorus
S.H.E. Lifts Off, Benefiting YWCA H.E.R.S.

Tickets available at Travel Plus in Haliburton, Whispers North in Minden and Pharmasave in Minden. \$30 a ticket!

Highlander events

Intimate and cozy at Dovetail

Artist ends tour at Haliburton cafe

By Heather Kennedy

"It's important I'm in tune or you'll leave."

That's how Brooke Miller kicked off her show on Dec. 7, and it was nothing short of a great experience.

While sitting in a dimly lit room at Dovetail Interiors and Sufficiently Suffocated, the crowd was mesmerized listening to Miller's low, sultry, gutsy voice as she strummed and picked her guitar to accompany her folk story told in song. The atmosphere is warm and intimate.

Mark Christiano's welcoming nature opened the evening with some original songs from himself along with Craig Titus such as "Simon Says" which was dedicated to Christiano's daughter River.

This venue for Miller marked the end of her tour.

Utilizing a small space for live entertainment and supporting

musicians is something Miller really enjoyed. It provided a small intimate audience.

To stay creative Miller likes to keep fresh by releasing singles such as "Impossible Story" and her brand new single "Double the

life" which is normally done with an electric guitar but was performed acoustically. The song is about not taking anything for granted.

Miller was pleased with the show.

"Thank you [Haliburton] for winding up my year."

"It's important I'm in tune or you'll leave."

Brooke Miller
Musician



Photos by Heather Kennedy
Above: Brooke Miller playing her brand new song "Double the life." Her latest songs are available on iTunes and Candyrat for download. Right: Mark Christiano and Craig Titus during sound check before the show, making sure they get the right sound for the room.

Would you like something MEANINGFUL this Christmas? Get on the list!

Just send us an e-mail to putmeonthelist@haliburtonhighlander.ca.

We'll print all names received in the paper so your friends and family know you would like them to include a donation to SIRCH on your behalf this year.



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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSWEEK
TheHighlander

We're on the list — you should be too!

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Daniela Pagliaro

Diane Johnson
Dianne Mathes
Judy Davis
Lesley English

Maureen Brewer
Peter Bowers
Sarah Grozelle
Sheila Redpath

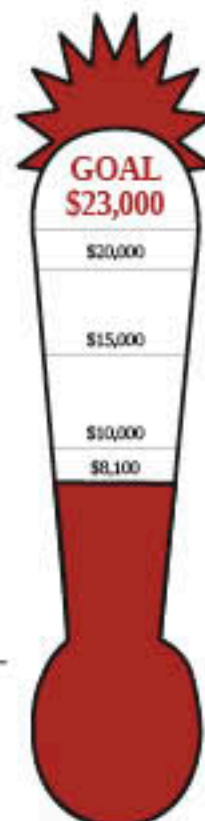
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Highlander events

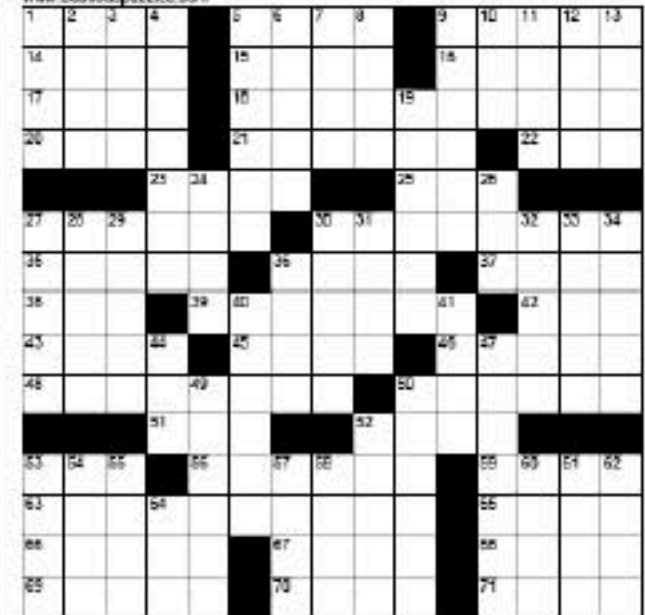
DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>A new issue of The Highlander hits the streets. Pick up your copy at one of 80 locations!</p> <p>13</p>	<p>The Highland Concert Band's 3rd annual Christmas Concert – St. George's Anglican Church, 7:30 p.m. Admission is by donation with all proceeds going to local food banks.</p> <p>14</p>	 <p>15</p>	<p>Cantata: More than a Manger – Haliburton United Church, 11:15 a.m.</p> <p>Santa Claus Parade – Starting at Wilberforce P.S., 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Gift wrapping fundraiser - Haliburton Dance Academy (41 Maple Avenue), 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>16</p>
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
 <p>17</p>	 <p>18</p>	 <p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
<p>Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941.</p> <p>21</p>	<p>YesterYule Yummies Holiday Bake Sale – Twelve Mile Lake Historical Church, 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Homemade pies, cakes, muffins, shortbread and much more!</p> <p>22</p>	<p>Special music: Singers Susan and Freya MacDonald – Haliburton United Church, 11:15 a.m.</p> <p>23</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS EVE! Christmas Eve Service – Haliburton United Church, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>24</p>
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>CHRISTMAS DAY!</p> <p>25</p>	<p>BOXING DAY!</p> <p>26</p>	<p>Bobcaygeon Senior Centre – Bus to Casino Rama, \$2.00 for the bus and buffet lunch. Bus departs at 8:30 a.m. from 100 Head St. Bobcaygeon, and returns at 4:15 p.m. Contact Judy at 705-738-4490.</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941</p> <p>28</p>

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION?

<p>Haliburton Branch (705-457-2571) Bid Euchre, every Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. Bingo, every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Minden Branch (705-286-4541) Lunch menu, every Monday to Friday from noon – 2:00 p.m. Bid Euchre, every Tuesday, 1:00 p.m. Meat Draw, every Wednesday, lunchtime Ladies Darts, every Thursday, 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Euchre, every Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Radio Club, every Friday, 10:00 a.m. Fish & Chips, every Friday from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Darts, every Friday, 7:30 p.m. NFL on the big screen, every Sunday (food available), 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221) Pool, every Friday, 1:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Jam Session, every Friday, 7:00 p.m. Meat Draw, every Saturday, 2:00 p.m. Bid Euchre, Monday, 7:00 p.m. Darts, every Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. New Year's Dance Monday, December 31st - Lloyd Watson Centre, 9:00pm to close. Buffet served at 11:00 p.m. (included in ticket price) Tickets available at Branch 624 (Wilberforce) - \$20.00 per person.</p>
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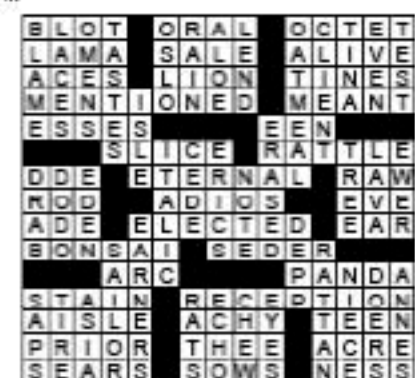
ACROSS

- Retirement accounts (abbr.)
- Mortgage
- Moved sneakily
- Surrealist painter Salvador
- Complexion woe
- C8
- Branch
- Colony
- Other than
- Talked back
- Born as
- Downpour
- Zero
- Briny
- Most flavorful
- Shoe spike
- Yearning
- Deadlock
- glance (2 wds.)

- Least hard
- Tavern order
- Volcanic outpouring
- Lessee
- Speed
- High blood
- Most rational
- Dress edge
- Voice range
- de Janeiro
- Take a breath
- Ocean movement
- Indisputable
- Time period
- Make points
- Wood strip
- Water jug
- Rabbitlike animals
- Roosters' mates
- Darn it!

DOWN

- Motionless
- Train track
- Charity
- Cold Russian region
- TV colie
- Atlantic or Pacific
- Picnic pests
- New Jersey team
- Debit's opposite
- Battering
- Genesis locale
- Cone-bearing tree
- Carry
- Contact
- Poker bet
- Pot cover
- Head skin
- Church table
- Depart
- Stale
- Eons
- Obiterate
- Epsom
- Bird sound
- Operator
- Graduates
- "All ____ Jazz"
- Fire remains
- One more
- Fishing nets
- Showers frozen rain
- Poe's middle name
- Make haste
- Ancient Peruvian
- Perfume
- Leftover dish
- It
- Minnesota's neighbor
- Music for two
- Makes a mistake
- Lyrical "before"



9			4	2		1	5	
	3		5					
					9		6	8
7			1					
6		3	7		4	8		5
				2				7
4	7		9					
					1		8	
	9	8		3	7			4

Send your
community event to
ashley@
haliburtonhighlander.ca

2	3	1	5	9	7	6	4	8
9	4	5	8	6	1	2	7	3
7	8	6	2	3	4	1	9	5
4	5	9	3	1	2	8	6	7
8	1	7	4	5	6	3	2	9
6	2	3	9	7	8	4	5	1
5	7	4	1	2	3	9	8	6
3	6	8	7	4	9	5	1	2
1	9	2	6	8	5	7	3	4



SAVE \$2

\$9.99
COLD FX
200 mg, 18s

PROTECT YOURSELF!

from Colds and Flu



SAVE \$5

\$14.99
COLD ASSIST
200 mg, 60s



\$8.99
ECHINACEA
w/ Garlic & Ginger, 45s



1/2 PRICE

\$5.49
VITAMIN B12
Time-release 1200 mg
Bonus 60+20



1/2 PRICE

\$3.49
VITAMIN C
500 mg, Bonus 100+20



1/2 PRICE

\$3.99
VITAMIN C
Chewable 500 mg
Bonus 100+20



1/2 PRICE

\$4.99
VITAMIN D 1000IU
Bonus 200+40



\$6.79
ZINC LOZENGES
w/ Echinacea,
Vit. C&D, 30s

*Get the
Flu Shot!*

NO APPOINTMENTS - WALK-INS
MONDAY — FRIDAY
9am - 5pm

AFTER 5PM & WEEKENDS ARE AVAILABLE
PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

This is a free service.

Everyone's Welcome! Kids - Adults - Seniors
5 yrs. and older



*Beat
the Bug!*

BACK
DOOR
ENTRANCE
WITH
ELEVATOR!



FREE
PARKING
AT BACK
OF STORE!

Open 7 days a week. Monday - Friday 9am - 9pm, Saturday 9am - 7pm
Sunday 9am - 6pm. Sale starts Nov. 13- Dec. 27, 2012

SENIORS & ODB ELIGIBLES

**WE
WAIVE**

\$4¹¹

ON ALL ELIGIBLE PRESCRIPTIONS

**Holiday
Hours**
Dec 24 & 25
9am - 2pm
Dec 26
9am - 9am
Dec 31
9am - 2pm
Jan 1
9am - 2pm

**FREE
DELIVERY**
ANYWHERE! UP
TO 50 KMS AWAY
EVERYDAY!

*ask pharmacist for details



HighlandPharmacy
Haliburton
Haliburton's Local Drug Store

211 Highland Street
P.O. Box 613
Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
T: 705-457-9669 F: 705-457-9449
rx@highlandpharmacy.ca



In Town Home - \$219,900



- Walking distance to town
- 1700 sq ft 2 bedroom home
- 840 sq ft in-law suite
- Modern, open concept kitchen
- Lower level family room

Long Lake View - \$179,999



- Great home or cottage overlooking lake
- Southern exposure, terraced gardens
- Country kitchen, 2 spacious bedrooms
- Bright sunroom with walk-out, 6 person sauna
- Garage, storage building, workshop/bunkie
- Close to town and water access



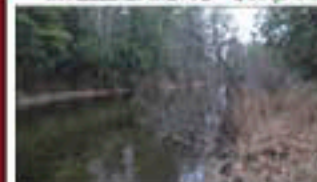
Cathy Bain*
705-286-1234
ext 224

Modern Log Home/Cottage



- 1.59 acres with 403 ft frontage
- Private lot on quiet lake
- Upgraded dock system
- Master bedroom with balcony
- Private setting with year round access

Kennels River - \$89,900



- Enjoy kayaking/canoeing/fishing
- 21 ft riverfront - 1.21 acres
- Level, partly cleared, treed at river
- Driveway in, hydro at lot line, year round access
- Near Big Hawk Lake & Halls Lake
- Snowmobile trails nearby



Luba Cargill**
705-286-1234
ext 252



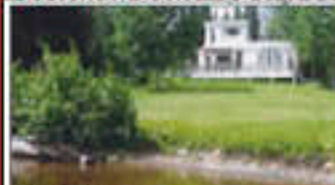
Lindsay Elder**
705-286-1234
ext 223

**Please call Lindsay Elder
for a complimentary, no
obligation home evaluation**
705-457-5878



Larry Hussey*
705-457-2414
ext 23

Coleman Lake - \$249,500



- 3 bedrooms
- Quiet motor restricted lake
- Private waterfront
- Gradual entry, sand bottom
- Easily convert outbuilding to bunkie
- Year round road, close to amenities

Minden Lake \$359,900



- w/ home - minutes to Minden
- 1,200 sq. ft bungalow, large double garage
- full walkout basement
- gentle slope to water
- park like setting, decking & docks

4 Season Home - \$379,900



- 2000 sq ft home/cottage
- 160 ft waterfront on spring fed lake
- Convenient 2 hour drive from GTA
- Expansive southern view
- Close to Minden & all amenities

Spectacular Redstone Lake!



- New custom built home/cottage
- Full unspoiled walkout basement
- Place kitchen, floor to ceiling fireplace
- ICF foundation, 38' x 8' lakeside deck
- Clean sand shoreline with South exposure



Chris James*
705-457-2414
ext 25

Little Hawk Area \$235,000



- Spacious 3300 sq ft home
- Short walk to public access
- Hiking & snowmobile trails in area
- Short drive to Halls Lake beaches
- Double det garage & large drive-in shed

Lochlin Area Lot \$17,900



- Private, well treed 2.8 acres
- Storage shed on lot
- Hydro at road
- Year round municipal access
- Build your home or getaway!



Hal Johnson**
705-286-1234
ext 229



Susan Johnson*
705-457-2414
ext 44

3.45 Acres - Keeler Street



- Private well treed lot
- Located in area of fine homes & large lots
- End of quiet cul de sac in town
- Surrounded by tranquil woodland
- Driveway & lot clearing done
- Ideal lot for new home

Country Living \$239,000



- 3 bedroom bungalow renovated throughout
- private 2 acre lot overlooking Cranberry Lake
- new furnace, windows, electric, insulation, plumbing
- master with ensuite, open concept, wood floors
- 1500 sq ft well maintained living space



Diane Knupp*
705-488-3077

Haliburton Lake Exclusive



- 5 bedroom luxury waterfront, 4000 sq ft
- Cathedral ceilings, master with ensuite
- Kitchen with built in appliances, granite
- Full furnished basement with family room
- Double car garage, 4 bathrooms
- 220 feet of pristine wide-in shoreline

Salerno Lake JUST LISTED



- 3 bedroom open concept
- Updated, pine floors and beams
- Newer appliances, shingles
- 133 feet shoreline, sand beach
- 2 docks, gorgeous waterfront
- Deep water, great swimming

New In Town Home



- 1682 sq ft luxury home w/ full w/o basement
- 2.68 acre lot - walking distance to town
- Oak hardwood & ceramic floors
- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Turbine warranty & 6 new appliances

Carnarvon Road



- High visibility highway intersection
- Turn-key business set up
- Restaurant and banquet room
- 4 lanes of 8 pin bowling
- Consistent cash flow opportunity



Anthony vanLieshout***
705-457-2414
ext 27

Loop Road \$125,000



- 3 bedroom in town home
- walkout basement
- large back yard
- upgraded high efficiency oil furnace
- view of Dark Lake

Gooderham/ Pine Lake



- privacy, clean shoreline & sunset exposure
- open concept cottage, bed in the loft
- 2 bdrms sleeping cpts
- backing onto crown land
- sandy shoreline & deep diving
- cottage furnished & ready to enjoy!



Chris & Michelle Smolarz*
705-457-2414
ext 22



Lorri Roberts*
705-457-2414
ext 43

Great in Town Location



- 3 + 1 bedroom in town home
- Fully finished walkout basement
- Open concept with many upgrades
- Large covered porch & deck areas
- Drilled well, full septic

Manitou Royal Home



- 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2600 sq ft home
- 7 acres with beautiful gardens
- Private deck off master bedroom
- 2 fireplaces, screen porch
- Insulated/heated double garage



*"The light of the Christmas star to you,
the warmth of home and hearth to you,
the cheer and goodwill of friends to you,
the hope of a child-like heart to you."*

**The agents and staff of Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton
wish everyone a safe and happy Holiday Season!**